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› Metabo 7-Inch Variable Speed Pipe/Tube Sander Kit, 1,650-5,500 ft/min, 13.5 Amp w/Lock-on, Accessory Set, Electronics, RBE 15-180 Set, 602243620, Green

Metabo 602243620

Metabo RBE 15-180 Pipe/Tube Sander Kit

Model: 602243620
User Instruction Manual

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the safe and effective operation, maintenance, and troubleshooting of your Metabo RBE 15-180 Pipe/Tube Sander Kit. Please read this manual thoroughly before using the tool to ensure proper handling and to maximize its performance and lifespan. This tool is engineered for precision finishing of pipes and tubes, suitable for various materials including stainless steel, aluminum, non-ferrous metals, wood, and plastic.



Figure 1.1: The Metabo RBE 15-180 Pipe/Tube Sander Kit, including the sander unit, various sanding belts, and the metaBOX 185 XL carrying case. This image provides an overview of the complete product package.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Always observe the following safety precautions to reduce the risk of electric shock, fire, and serious injury.

2.1 General Power Tool Safety Warnings

- **Work Area Safety:** Keep your work area clean and well-lit. Cluttered or dark areas invite accidents. Do not operate power tools in explosive atmospheres, such as in the presence of flammable liquids, gases, or dust.
- **Electrical Safety:** Power tool plugs must match the outlet. Never modify the plug in any way. Do not abuse the cord. Never use the cord for carrying, pulling, or unplugging the power tool. Keep cord away from heat, oil, sharp edges, or moving parts.
- **Personal Safety:** Always wear eye protection. Use hearing protection when operating the tool for extended periods. Dress properly; do not wear loose clothing or jewelry. Keep hair, clothing, and gloves away from moving parts.
- **Tool Use and Care:** Do not force the power tool. Use the correct power tool for your application. Disconnect the plug from the power source before making any adjustments, changing accessories, or storing power tools.

3. PACKAGE CONTENTS

The Metabo RBE 15-180 Pipe/Tube Sander Kit includes the following components:

- Metabo RBE 15-180 Tube Belt Sander

- metaBOX 185 XL Carrying Case
- Side Handle
- 10 x Zirconia Sanding Belts (P80 grit)
- 2 x Pyramid Sanding Belts (P280/A65 grit)
- 2 x Pyramid Sanding Belts (P400/A45 grit)
- 2 x Pyramid Sanding Belts (P600/A30 grit)
- 2 x Pyramid Sanding Belts (P1200/A16 grit)
- 3 x Fleece Belts (medium)

4. SETUP

4.1 Attaching the Side Handle

The side handle provides additional control and stability during operation. Securely screw the side handle into the designated threaded opening on the sander's housing. Ensure it is tightened firmly before use.

4.2 Installing Sanding Belts

1. Ensure the tool is unplugged from the power source.
2. Locate the belt tension release mechanism. This tool features a tool-free change system for quick belt replacement.
3. Release the tension and slide the old belt off, if applicable.
4. Place the new sanding belt onto the drive and idler rollers, ensuring the arrow on the belt matches the direction of rotation indicated on the tool. The rubberized drive roller helps prevent belt slipping.
5. Re-engage the tension mechanism to secure the belt firmly.
6. Adjust the belt guide as needed to ensure the belt tracks centrally on the rollers. This adjustment is also tool-free.



Figure 4.1: Front view of the Metabo RBE 15-180 sander, highlighting the belt path and the tool-free adjustment points for the sanding belt and guide. Proper belt installation is crucial for effective operation.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

5.1 Powering On/Off

To turn the tool on, press the power switch. For continuous operation, engage the lock-on button. To turn off, release the switch or press the switch again if the lock-on function is engaged.

5.2 Variable Speed Control

The Metabo RBE 15-180 features VARIO-TACHO-CONSTAMATIC Full Wave Electronics, allowing you to adjust the speed to suit the material and application. The electronics maintain a nearly constant speed under load, ensuring consistent performance. Adjust the speed dial to the desired setting before beginning work.

5.3 Applications

This pipe/tube sander is designed for a wide range of finishing tasks on various materials:

- **Cleaning:** Removing rust, paint, or other surface contaminants.
- **Reconditioning:** Restoring the surface of pipes and tubes.
- **Finishing:** Achieving a smooth, uniform surface.
- **Polishing:** Bringing materials like stainless steel to a mirror finish.

The pivoting head allows for a large wrap angle of up to 270 degrees, making it effective on smaller diameter tubes and pipes up to 7 inches in diameter. The high torque gearing is particularly optimized for stainless steel applications.

5.4 Soft Start and Restart Protection

The tool incorporates a soft start feature for smooth, controlled start-up, reducing sudden jolts. It also includes restart protection, which prevents unintentional start-up after a power supply interruption, enhancing user safety.

6. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your Metabo sander.

6.1 Cleaning

After each use, clean the tool to remove dust and debris. Use a dry cloth or compressed air. Ensure ventilation openings are clear to prevent overheating. Do not use solvents or abrasive cleaners.

6.2 Carbon Brushes

The tool is equipped with auto-stop carbon brushes. When the carbon brushes are worn, the tool will automatically shut off to protect the motor from damage. Replace both carbon brushes simultaneously with genuine Metabo replacement parts. This procedure should ideally be performed by qualified personnel.

6.3 Belt Replacement

Replace sanding belts as they become worn or damaged. Refer to Section 4.2 for detailed instructions on installing new belts.

6.4 Storage

Store the tool and its accessories in the metaBOX 185 XL carrying case in a dry, secure location, away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter. For problems not listed here, contact Metabo customer support.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Tool does not start	No power supply; Worn carbon brushes; Restart protection activated	Check power connection; Replace carbon brushes; Disconnect and reconnect power supply
Sanding belt slips or tracks unevenly	Belt not tensioned correctly; Belt guide misaligned; Worn belt	Re-tension belt; Adjust belt guide; Replace belt
Tool overheats	Overload; Blocked ventilation openings	Reduce load; Clean ventilation openings; Allow tool to cool down
Reduced performance	Worn sanding belt; Motor overload protection activated	Replace sanding belt; Reduce pressure and allow motor to recover

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Brand	Metabo
Model Number	602243620 (RBE 15-180 Set)
Voltage	120 Volts
AC Adapter Current	13.5 Amps
Wattage	1550 Watts
Power Source	Corded Electric
Item Weight	7.5 Pounds
Product Dimensions	19.75 x 9 x 14.5 inches
Sander Size	7 inches (for pipe diameter)
Grit Type	Coarse, Medium, Fine
Maximum Rotational Speed	92 Feet Per Second
Cord Length	96 Inches
Special Features	Multi-use, Variable Speed
Usage	Professional

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Metabo products are manufactured to high-quality standards and come with a manufacturer's warranty. For specific warranty terms and conditions, please refer to the documentation included with your product or visit the official Metabo website. For technical support, spare parts, or service inquiries, please contact Metabo customer service directly. You can also refer to the official user manual PDF for additional details: [Metabo RBE 15-180 User Manual \(PDF\)](#).

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